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## MAY 0 8 2006

**PATENT** 

## IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

Inventor(s): Clifton A. Alferness Examiner: GETZOW, Scott M.

Appln. No.: 10/668,528 Group Art Unit: 3762

Filing Date: September 23, 2003 Confirmation No.: 1883

Title: CARDIAC Customer No.: 25764

REINFORCEMENT DEVICE | Docket No. 59013-331598

Mail Stop Amendment

Commissioner for Patents P. O. Box 1450

Alexandria, VA 22313-1450

I CERTIFY THAT THIS CORRESPONDENCE IS BEING FACSIMILE TRANSMITTED TO THE U.S. PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE (FAX No. (571) 273-8300), ON

May 8, 2006

**RESPONSE** 

This Response is in reply to the outstanding Office Action mailed January 6, 2006, and includes the following sections:

- 1. Introductory Comments, beginning on page 2; and
- 2. Remarks beginning on page 3.

Also enclosed with this response is the following:

- 1. Request for One-Month Extension of Time;
- Credit Card Payment Form for the extension of time and terminal disclaimer fees;
- 3. Terminal Disclaimer over pending applications; and
- 4. Terminal Disclaimer over issued patents.

Should any additional fee be required for entry of this paper, the Commissioner is authorized to charge the Faegre & Benson Deposit Account No. 06-0029 and in such event, is requested to notify us of the same.

FROM FAEGRE & BENSON

10/668,528

Amendment Dated: May 8, 2006 Reply to Office Action of January 6, 2006

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## **INTRODUCTORY COMMENTS**

This communication is responsive to the outstanding Office Action mailed on January 6, 2006. Claims 28-36 are pending in the current application. In the above-identified Office Action, the Examiner rejected claims 28-36.

By this Response, the Applicant hereby submits terminal disclaimers to obviate rejections on the ground of nonstatutory obviousness-type double patenting. The Applicant traverses the Examiner's rejection of claims 28-36 under 35 U.S.C. § 102(e). Reconsideration and allowance of claims 28-36 in view of the terminal disclaimers and accompanying Remarks is respectfully requested.